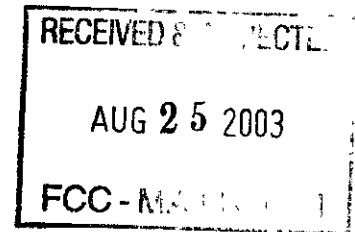




Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative  
Dickey Rural Communications, Inc.  
Dickey Rural Services, Inc.  
Dickey Rural Access, Inc.



August 19, 2003

Ms. Magalie Roman, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12 St SW, Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: USF Certification – FCC Docket No. 96-45

Enclosed for filing in FCC Docket 96-45 is an Affidavit certifying that all universal service support will only be used by the undersigned carrier for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

The undersigned carrier has also filed this Affidavit with the North Dakota Public Service Commission, and it is anticipated that the North Dakota Public Service Commission will also certify by October 1, 2003, that the undersigned carrier will only use said universal service support for its intended purpose. However, because of the importance of this issue, and the fast approaching certification deadline of October 1, 2003, the undersigned carrier is also providing certification directly to the Federal Communications Commission to ensure that the undersigned carrier continues to receive the universal service support for which it is eligible.

Sincerely

Mark Scallon  
General Manager  
Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative

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public switched network; (b) local usage; (c) dual-tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (d) single-party service or its functional equivalent; (e) access to emergency services; (f) access to operator services; (g) access to interexchange service; (h) access to directory assistance; and (i) toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2003.

DICKEY RURAL TELEPHONE  
COOPERATIVE

By Mark Scallon  
Mark Scallon  
Its: Manager

State of North Dakota     )  
  ) ss.  
County of Dickey            )

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2003, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared MARK SCALLON, known to me to be the Manager of DICKEY RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

T. M. Schilling  
\_\_\_\_\_, Notary Public  
For the State of North Dakota  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

